

§ 120.1

13 CFR Ch. I (1–1–10 Edition)

AUTHORITY: 15 U.S.C. 634(b)(6), (b)(7), (b)(14), (h), and note, 636(a), (h) and (m), 650, 687(f), 696(3), and 697(a) and (e); Public Law 111–5, 123 Stat. 115.

SOURCE: 61 FR 3235, Jan. 31, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 120 appear at 72 FR 50039, Aug. 30, 2007.

GENERAL DESCRIPTIONS OF SBA'S BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAMS

§ 120.1 Which loan programs does this part cover?

This part regulates SBA's financial assistance to small businesses under its general business loan programs ("7(a) loans") authorized by section 7(a) of the Small Business Act ("the Act"), 15 U.S.C. 636(a), its microloan demonstration loan program ("Microloans") authorized by section 7(m) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. 636(m), and its development company program ("504 loans") authorized by Title V of the Small Business Investment Act, 15 U.S.C. 695 to 697f ("Title V"). These three programs constitute the business loan programs of the SBA.

§ 120.2 Descriptions of the business loan programs.

(a) *7(a) loans.* (1) 7(a) loans provide financing for general business purposes and may be:

- (i) A direct loan by SBA;
- (ii) An immediate participation loan by a Lender and SBA; or
- (iii) A guaranteed loan (deferred participation) by which SBA guarantees a portion of a loan made by a Lender.

(2) A guaranteed loan is initiated by a Lender agreeing to make an SBA guaranteed loan to a small business and applying to SBA for SBA's guarantee under a blanket guarantee agreement (participation agreement) between SBA and the Lender. If SBA agrees to guarantee (authorizes) a portion of the loan, the Lender funds and services the loan. If the small business defaults on the loan, SBA's guarantee requires SBA to purchase its portion of the outstanding balance, upon demand by the Lender and subject to specific conditions. Regulations specific to 7(a) loans are found in subpart B of this part.

(b) *Microloans.* SBA makes loans and loan guarantees to non-profit Intermediaries that make short-term loans up to \$25,000 to eligible small businesses for general business purposes, except payment of personal debts. SBA also makes grants to Intermediaries for use in providing management assistance and counseling to small businesses. Regulations specific to these loans are found in subpart G of this part.

(c) *504 loans.* Projects involving 504 loans require long-term fixed-asset financing for small businesses. A Certified Development Company (CDC) provides the final portion of this financing with a 504 loan made from the proceeds of a Debenture issued by the CDC, guaranteed 100 percent by SBA (with the full faith and credit of the United States), and sold to investors. The regulations specific to these loans are found in subpart H of this part.

§ 120.3 Pilot programs.

The Administrator of SBA may from time to time suspend, modify, or waive rules for a limited period of time to test new programs or ideas. The Administrator shall publish a document in the FEDERAL REGISTER explaining the reasons for these actions.

DEFINITIONS

§ 120.10 Definitions.

The following terms have the same meaning wherever they are used in this part. Defined terms are capitalized wherever they appear.

Acceptable Risk Rating is an SBA-assigned Risk Rating, currently defined by SBA as "1", "2" or "3" on a scale of 1 to 5, which represents an acceptable level of risk as determined by SBA, and which may be revised by SBA from time to time as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER through notice and comment.

Associate. (1) An Associate of a Lender or CDC is:

- (i) An officer, director, key employee, or holder of 20 percent or more of the value of the Lender's or CDC's stock or debt instruments, or an agent involved in the loan process;
- (ii) Any entity in which one or more individuals referred to in paragraphs